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Date:

July 12, 2019

Dear Interested Party,

United States

Agriculture

Department of

This letter is to inform you that the Three Rivers Ranger District has completed the final environmental assessment for the South Fork Boulder Road Project. The responsible official, Three Rivers District Ranger Joshua White, has issued a draft Decision Notice per 36 CFR 218. The South Fork Boulder Road project area is located in Ferry County, Washington.

The responsible official has decided to implement a modified alternative for this project. The selected activities will include all of Alternative D, and the portion of Alternative A that creates a narrow non-motorized trail along the current extent of the existing road running along South Fork Boulder Creek.

The final environmental assessment and the draft Decision Notice will be available during the objection period at https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51934.

Instructions for Objections

The draft decision notice is subject to a 45-day objection period pursuant to 36 CFR 218. The 45-day objection period begins on the date of the publication of the legal notice in the newspaper of record (*The Statesman Examiner*, Colville, Washington). Only individuals or organizations who submitted specific written comments during a designated opportunity for public participation (the scoping period or the 30-day public comment period) are eligible to object (36 CFR 218.5). Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted written comments regarding the proposed project or activity and attributed to the objector, unless the issue is based on new information that arose after the opportunities for comment.

Notices of objection must meet the minimum requirements of 36 CFR 218.8(d). Incorporation of documents by reference is permitted only as provided for at 36 CFR 218.8(b). Minimum requirements are as follows:

- 1. Objector's name and address as defined in 218.2, with a telephone number, if available;
- 2. Signature or other verification of authorship upon request (a scanned signature for electronic mail may be filed with the objection);
- 3. When multiple names are listed on an objection, identification of the lead objector as defined in 218.2. Verification of the identity of the lead objector must be provided upon request or the reviewing officer will designate a lead objector as provided in 218.5(d);
- 4. The name of the proposed project, the name and title of the responsible official, and the name(s) of the national forest(s) and/or ranger district(s) on which the proposed project will be implemented;
- 5. A description of those aspects of the proposed project addressed by the objection, including specific issues related to the proposed project; if applicable, how the objector believes the environmental analysis or draft decision specifically violates law, regulation, or policy; suggested





remedies that would resolve the objection; supporting reasons for the reviewing officer to consider; and

6. A statement that demonstrates the connection between prior specific written comments on the particular proposed project or activity and the content of the objection, unless the objection concerns an issue that arose after the designated opportunity(ies) for comment.

Since, the responsible official for this project is Joshua White, Three Rivers District Ranger, the reviewing officer is Rodney Smoldon, Forest Supervisor for the Colville National Forest. Objections must be postmarked or received by the reviewing officer within 45 days from the publication date of the legal notice in *The Statesman Examiner*, Colville, WA. The publication of the legal notice is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection. If you wish to file an objection please do not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. We expect to publish the legal notice on July 17, 2019 though it is possible that it will be published at a later date.

For emailed objections, you should receive an automated electronic acknowledgement from the agency as confirmation of receipt. If you do not receive an automated acknowledgement of receipt for an objection, it would be your responsibility to ensure timely filing by other means.

Objections may be emailed to: Forest Supervisor, Objection Reviewing Officer, Attn: Objections, 765 South Main, Colville, WA 99114. Objections may be emailed to: objections-pnw-colville@fs.fed.us. Please put OBJECTION and the project name in the subject line. Electronic objections must be submitted as part of an actual email message, or as attachment in Microsoft WORD (.doc or .docx), rich text format (.rtf), or portable document format (.pdf) only. Emails submitted to email addresses other than the one listed above, or in formats other than those listed, or containing viruses, will be rejected.

Objections may be hand delivered to: Colville National Forest Supervisor's Office, Attn: Objections, 765 South Main, Colville, WA 99114 between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays; or faxed to: Forest Supervisor, Attn: 1570 Objections at (509) 684-7080.

Implementation

If no objections are received within the 45-day objection period, this decision notice may be signed after the fifth business day following the end of the objection filing period (36 CFR 218.12(c) (2)), and implementation may occur.

For additional information about how to object or to request a copy of the final environmental assessment or draft decision notice, contact Joshua White, Three Rivers District Ranger, at (509) 738-7700, 255 W. 11th Avenue, Kettle Falls, WA 99141.

Thank you for your participation in this project.

Sincerely,

Joshua White District Ranger